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June 9, 2017

California Coastal Commission
Headquarters
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, California 94105

Dear Commissioners:

Reports suggest the California Coastal Commission (“CCC” or “Commission”) intends to hold a meeting in August 2017 regarding Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installations (ISFSI) and to review nuclear permitting authorities at the state and federal levels. Maintaining an open, continued dialogue with stakeholders on the need for swift action on nuclear storage is extremely important to the safety of the public, security, environment, and energy needs of our beautiful State.

I, however, write to express concerns about the chosen location for this meeting and request it to be moved. Pepperdine University in Malibu, California is still nearly 100 miles away from the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS), which has received the most recent ISFSI permit in California. I respectfully request for this meeting be moved to the CCC’s “South District” of Orange County so the Commission may hear from the community most invested and most directly influenced by the discussion.

My Congressional district is home to SONGS. The Station’s position near the populous Orange and San Diego Counties makes the storage of approximately 3.6 million pounds of high-level nuclear waste at SONGS of personal concern to this region. In fact, more than 8 million people live within a 50-mile radius of the station.

This waste is to remain on site until the Department of Energy fulfills its obligation to safely remove the waste and store it in a secure repository. The participation of local citizens regarding the future of spent nuclear fuel at SONGS is a crucial component to public confidence in the processes for decommissioning and safe storage.

Our local community can offer valuable insight into this issue. For instance, the SONGS Community Engagement Panel, a grassroots coalition consisting of diverse stakeholders, meets regularly to discuss and review updates on the plant’s decommissioning progress and storage

options for the spent nuclear fuel with SONGS owners. This group includes local residents, elected officials, businesses, community leaders, and representatives of the military and utility company alike. In addition to this group, the nearby communities at-large are informed and engaged on the issues surrounding SONGS. Public engagement and an open forum with the well-informed citizens near SONGS will provide the CCC greater perspective and long-term solutions to satisfy the mission to protect California and its citizens.

If the location for this meeting is not moved closer to the communities affected, many of my constituents will be forced to drive hours in order to voice their concerns or questions or will be unable to attend. I strongly urge this meeting to be relocated so that all in my community may have the chance to be heard.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for considering this request.

Sincerely,



Darrell Issa
Member of Congress

cc: Commissioner Donne Brownsey
Commissioner Mary K. Shallengberger
Commissioner Mark Vargas
Commissioner Ryan Sundberg, North Coast Representative
Commissioner Aaron Peskin, North Central Coast Representative
Commissioner Carole Groom, Central Coast Representative
Commissioner Erik Howell, South Central Coast Representative
Commissioner Roberto Uranga, South Coast Representative
Commissioner Stephen Padilla, San Diego Coast Representative